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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: S. FUKUDA et al.  
Serial No.: 10/649,636  
Filed: August 28, 2003  
For: VOLUME ALLOCATION WITHIN A STORAGE MANAGEMENT  
SYSTEM (As Amended)  
Group: 2161  
Examiner: C. Daye

**AMENDMENT**

**Mail Stop Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

November 17, 2006

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 25, 2006, setting a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on December 25, 2006, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the following amendments and remarks.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2.

**Remarks** are included following the amendments.